J-6/Mescal Community Development Organization

TRI-COMMUNITY NEWS

NOVEMBER 2009

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Call 586-1233 to volunteer for the production team!!!

For email notifications, contact us at our new email address:

CDO@Tri-Newsletter.com

FALL FUN - ENTER TODAY!

LUCKY SEVEN

DRAWING FOR ONE $25 WINNER THE LAST DAY OF EACH MONTH - NOV. - DEC.

SIMPLE! SIMPLE! SIMPLE!

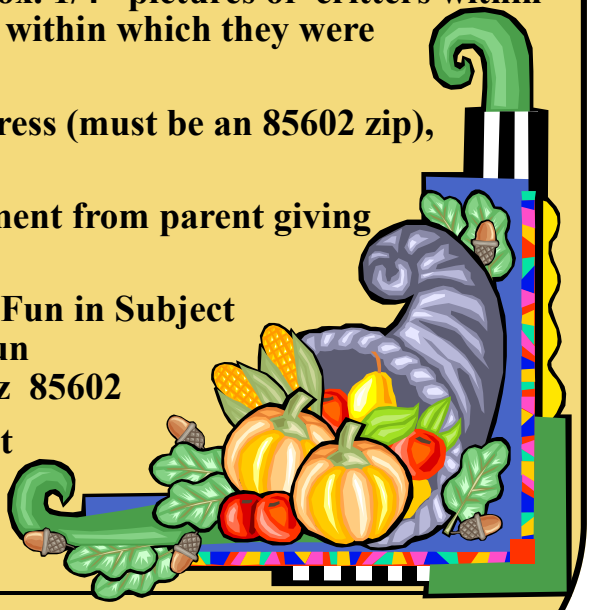
JUST SUBMIT A LIST OF THE SEVEN LITTLE CRITTERS HIDING IN THE NEWS ARTICLES AND ADS!

CONGRATS TO OUR OCT. WINNER-

Judy Herring!!

RULES TO ENTER NOVEMBER DRAWING:

1. Make a list of the seven approx. 1/4" pictures of critters within an oval with the article or ad within which they were found.
2. Add your name, mailing address (must be an 85602 zip), phone number.
3. If under 10, must have statement from parent giving permission to enter.
4. Submit either by email with Fun in Subject Line or Mail to: CDO Fall Fun 3111 Clark Road Benson, Az 85602
5. Limit of two entries (different individuals) for each mailing address.



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MESCAL J-6 FIRE CHIEF RESIGNS

October 31, 2009

To the Board:

Nearly five years ago when I was appointed Fire Chief the chief's duties took up an hour a day on two or three days a week, along with responding to a couple calls each week.

Over the last several months the duties have required daily involvement, seven days a week, along with responding to a call a day. And the demands aren't slowing down.

A review of the last several years shows much improvement in the quality of our emergency response. We now have a formal training program and operational procedures. We have improved gear, vehicles, and equipment (much of it NFPA-compliant) to better protect citizens and our volunteers. We have 17 active volunteers and an all-time high number of EMS trained personnel. We also have a respected reputation among the public safety agencies we work with.

I'm most proud of the huge leap forward we took by becoming a Fire District. But despite all these accomplishments there are some issues and deficiencies which must be addressed, as noted in the 5 year plan we established.

To maintain our District's current level of operational strength simply requires more of a commitment as Fire Chief than I wish to make due to other personal interests. And to continue our forward progress will require even more time and effort.

Our community needs a Fire Chief who can dedicate the time required and who has the administrative expertise needed. For that reason I am resigning my position as Fire Chief and firefighter, effective November 30, 2009.

I want nothing but the best for the District and our community. I'll be happy to provide advice and guidance to the Board as you move forward with many important decisions.

I leave with pride in what we've accomplished so far and with high expectations of what the District will achieve in the future.

Sincerely,

Warren Neff

FIRE CHIEF WARREN NEFF

In appreciation for years of service to the Tri-Community Area. The community thanks you for your hours of dedication, support, and guidance in improving protection for our loved ones, homes, and property. Wishing you the best in pursuing your special interests.

.....J-6/Mescal CDC

FIRE DISTRICT RESEARCHING SOLUTIONS FOR COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

Poor radio reception has been a long te rm topic with the fire-fighters and t he District Board. Lim ited transmission capabili-ties have left firefighters without the abilit y to call f or backup or additional support in outlying areas of the district.

Conversations with Benson Fire District, Cochise Count y, and other em ergency responders have not resulted in a s atisfactory solution.

The current Fire Chief, Warren Ne ff, and Board Chair, Terri Jo Neff, are ex ploring options with Can yon State Wireless for construction of a 150 foot to 190 foot communications tower.

At the Novem ber 2nd Fir e District Bo ard Meeting, it was re-ported that a draft proposal was submitted to the county for re-view to address radio co mmunication deficiencies. Since this is a priorit y, a ction to m ove forward is expected mid-m onth. Also, a m otion was approved to seek bids from appraisers for an appraisal on 5 parcels west of the QuickPic.

Since a new bill has b een passed that sets the levy ing capacity of Fire Distri cts, a request has been made for an ite m to be placed on the De cember F.D. Board Meeting that dis-cusses how t his law will i mpact their f ive y ear plan and financial strategy.

Congrats to Deputy Fire Chief Chris Bernal

CHRIS BERNAL HAS COMPLETED ALL THE FIRES REQUIRED AND CLASSES ETC. TO GET HIS ENGINE BOSS CERTIFICATE. " WE HAVE BEEN IN DIRE NEED OF AN ENGINE BOSS FOR SOME TIME NOW, AND HAVE NOT EVER HAD ONE".

KUDOS TO YOU, CHRIS, FOR GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO GET THIS DONE !

CDO REQUESTS STAKEHOLDER UPDATE RE: NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Since the Open House held in June, the Technical Advisory Committee:

1) has found a replacement as project lead
2) has revisited and revised the scope of work for URS Consulting
3) has identified who will be the responsible parties for components of the original proposal that will not be addressed by the consultants,
4) has started reviewing drafts of key documents, and
5) has adjusted the time frame accordingly.

J-6/Mescal CDO has continued to be concerned that the strategy for the Northwest Transportation Plan categorizes participants differently than the **experiential norm** for the area - distinguishing "the public" (citizens, residents, prop-erty owners, interested parties) from the "stakeholders" (large land owners, business owners, elected officials, transportation system operators, planners, public works managers, school district officials, and emergency respond-ers).

For this reason, CDO has requested the following:

1) Who are the identified participants, and how are they being categorized -- with the understanding that all have a vested "stakeholder" interest in the process?
2) A flowchart/diagram illustrating the strategy for man-aging this planning effort - communicating what oppor-tunities exist for involvement activities by the various participant categories and explaining if emphasis will vary with type of stakeholder.
3) A timeline aligned with the flowchart illustrating how input opportunities align with summary/map/report production, revisions, and final recommendations.

Transportation speaker will be guest at CDO Jan. Mtg.

NEFF'S TRIAL DATE CHANGED

According to recent News-Sun article, Terri Jo Neff's trial for two Class 2 Felony charges has been moved from December lst to April 19, and the pretrial to Jan. 8th.

Click here to link to full News-Sun Article.

FIRE DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The Mescal-J6 Fire District is still seeking residents and owners of property within the District to serve on three Governing Board committees: the Budget Committee, the Legal and Insurance Committee, and the Policy and By-Laws Committee.

The Budget Committee presents a proposed annual budget to the Board, recommends the hiring of a CPA for audits, and reviews large expenditures not included on the current adopted budget. Board Treasurer Bill Dupee is the committee's chairperson.

The Legal and Insurance Committee advises the Board on legislative, legal, and insurance matters. They are also responsible for reviewing any matters referred to their committee by the Policy and By-Laws Committee. Members with insurance or legal backgrounds are preferred. Michael Gherardini is the committee's chairperson.

The Policy and By-Laws Committee reviews the District's Board Policy and the District's By-Laws at least once a year. All proposed changes to the Policy and By-Laws are submitted to the Governing Board by this committee. Doug Stickler is the committee's chairperson.

The time commitment is estimated at 2-3 hours per month. Meetings will begin as soon as each chairperson appoints his committee members.

Committee members are appointed as individuals, not as members of any organization or group.

Persons who live in the District or own property within the District may submit a letter of interest, indicating which Committee they are interested in serving on with a brief outline of their experience, to the Governing Board, attn: Secretary Rhonda Toledo-Buchs at 388 S J-Six Ranch Road Benson AZ 85602 or via email to mescalj6fire@hotmail.com For additional information please leave a message at 520-586-7007.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO HEAR CHANGES TO HAZARD ABATEMENT ORDINANCE

A new "Hazard Abatement Ordinance" draft will have a public hearing on December 9, at the Planning & Zoning Commission. The Commission's recommendation will go to the BOS on January 12, 2010.

Docket R-09-02: Consideration of adoption of a new ordinance entitled the "Cochise County Hazard Abatement Ordinance" to abate/remove rubbish, trash, weeds, filth, debris or damaged or dilapidated buildings which constitute a hazard to public health and safety and which may be compelled to be removed, with due process, from buildings, grounds, lots, contiguous sidewalks, streets and alleys within the unincorporated areas of the County. The Ordinance outlines the due process for formal notification, removal by the County and recovery of costs for removal and appeal processes for property owners with hazardous materials.

The notice for December 9 says that for comments or questions, contact Rick Corley at (520) 432-9240, or email rhcorley@cochise.az.gov
Susana Montana has the same phone as Corley, but email smontana@cochise.az.gov

Click here to view the current draft or here for meeting info.

Suggested changes by some residents include:

-- don't mislead citizens by saying that the standard for obtaining a search warrant is "reasonable" cause. The standard is "probable" cause.

-- don't charge landowners for cleaning up trash on the road running by their property. See Section 404(b).

-- don't let the same County employee both issue an order and decide whether to stay it upon appeal. See Section 504.

-- do restore the "Commentary" after Section 504, to emphasize the protection of citizens' rights.

-- don't let the Board Of Supervisors delegate citizen appeals to an appointed "hearing examiner." See Section 505.

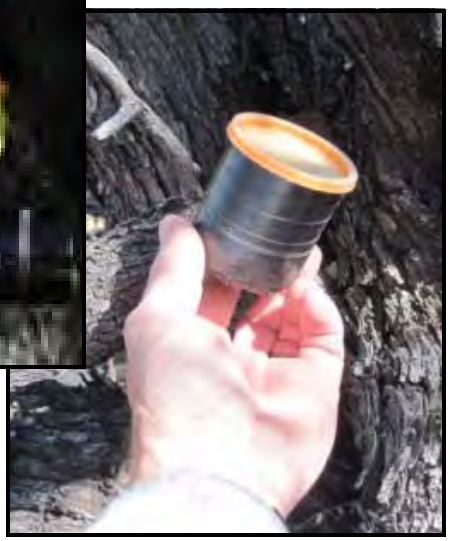
-- do reinstate the detailed description of citizens' rights in the existing ordinance enacted in 1987. See Section 604.

-- do require accurate cost accounting, and allow any affected person to protest a Department decision. See Section III of the HazOrdCompareNow site.

……..Comparison prepared by Michael Jackson

MICO-CACHING IN THE AREA- PERFECT TIME OF YEAR!

Geocacher "philbeer" has presented a challenge with his Mescal Cache. With no clues except latitude and longitude coordinates, this find does require a little time to discover. Although an Old Tucson Movie Set sign is posted on http://www.geocaching.com/. , the search requires a close-eye to detail, and what doesn't belong amongst what's very familiar. Take your own pencil because the cache is too small to even include a stubby pencil. Philbeer has an impressive record of finding over 2,404 caches by others, and has hidden nearly 50 himself.



A second cache just slightly larger than the first, but still on Mescal Road, comes with a more difficult rating for both difficulty and terrain. The mico-cache above was one/five stars for both categories, while this small canister rates as two stars for each. With no additional clues being offered besides the lat. and long., pleasant comments posted on the web indicate this was an enjoyable search.

Have extra time???? Find all 60+ caches that are within a 10 miles radius of the J-6/ Mescal Interchange. Check the web to get started!!!

STRONG METEOR SHOWER PEAKED ON TUESDAY

Rural Arizona was treated to a better than average performance of meteor showers during the wee hours of the morning - between 1 A.M. and dawn.

The Leonid steam was moving in the opposite direction of Earth, producing impact speeds of 160,000 mph - higher than many meteors.

Leonids can appear anywhere, but if you traced them back, they all pointed to a hub in the constellation Leo. Leo was low in the eastern sky so skywatchers had to stick it out until daybreak.

No special equipment was needed. Telescopes and binoculars were of no use because meteors move too quickly.

Twenty to thirty meteors per hour were predicted. "The hour rates usually come in bursts with lulls that can test your patience. (In 2001, Hereford observers at the Junk Bond Observatory were able to count more than 3,400 shooting stars in one hour.)

One truth about Leonids: They always produce, and they sometimes produce spectacular, unforgettable fireballs."

Dec. 31st Deadline for Early Registration for Special Tours

Bird-watching and photography: Each winter, hundreds of species of birds visit the Willcox Playa Wildlife Area. Growing interest in viewing this wildlife sparked an annual event, Wings over Willcox. The festival features education, food, and crafts, as well as tours to see the sandhill cranes and other wildlife.

Go on line at http://www.wingsoverwillcox.com/ to register for Special Tours and Presentations at the 17th Annual Wings Over Willcox held January 13-17, 2010.

Although the 2009 Festival had fewer Sandhill Crane numbers, with 28,400 cranes in the Sulphur Springs Valley, the views were spectacular. It is well worth putting this event on your calendar!

TRAFFIC ALERT - MARSH STATION AREA

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

I-10 Cienega Creek to Marsh Station

Marsh Station Interchange Relocation

Traffic Alert

For Immediate Release

Westbound I-10 Lane Closure

On Monday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the right lane of westbound I-10, in the vicinity of the Marsh Station TI, will be closed. No interchange ramps will be affected by this temporary closure. The lane closure will allow the contractor to complete work on a water line in the area.

The waterline work is part of an Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) project to construct a new Marsh Station Traffic Interchange (TI) approximately 1.6 miles east of the existing Marsh Station TI.

This $10.3 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act project includes the extension of Marsh Station Road, drainage improvements and new pavement markings. The project also includes realigning approximately three miles of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) line to the north side of I-10.

When complete, the new TI, together with the removal of the low clearance UPRR bridge over I-10, will accommodate wide-load trucks and trucks with a clearance of 16.5 feet or less. Currently, wide loads and trucks higher than 15 feet must use State Routes 83, 82 and 90 as a 65-mile detour off I-10.

Crews have begun identifying cactus that will be removed, cared for in a nursery during construction and then replanted within the project limits. The project is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete and should be finalized in the summer of 2011.

The first phase of construction will take place outside of interstate travel and will have minimal impacts on the traveling public. Motorists should expect intermittent lane restrictions while concrete safety barriers are placed along the roadway.

Later phases of construction will include a short closure of I-10 to allow existing bridge structures to be demolished. Motorists will be advised well in advance of this event so that alternative travel plans can be made.

ADOT advises drivers to proceed with caution, obey all posted speed limit signs and be alert for construction equipment and personnel.

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the construction traffic alerts regarding this project, please email info@marshstation.info with your contact information.

While ADOT strives to inform the public about planned roadway restrictions, during any complex construction project, there is a possibility that unscheduled closures or restrictions may occur.

ADOT appreciates your patience as we construct these improvements.

Thanksgiving:

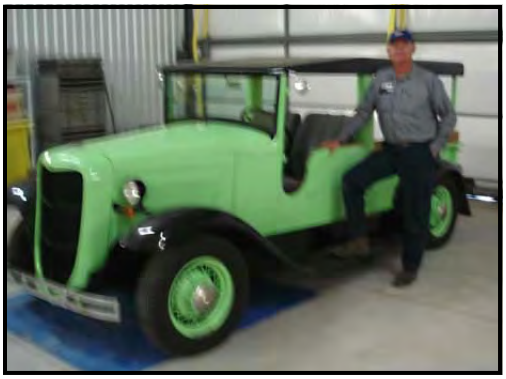
For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends
For everything
Thy goodness sends.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

WHAT'S NEW IN THE FEATURED COLUMNS?

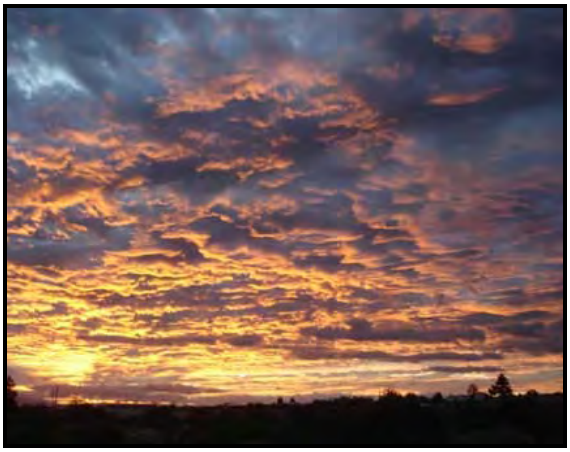
WHO'S WHO IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

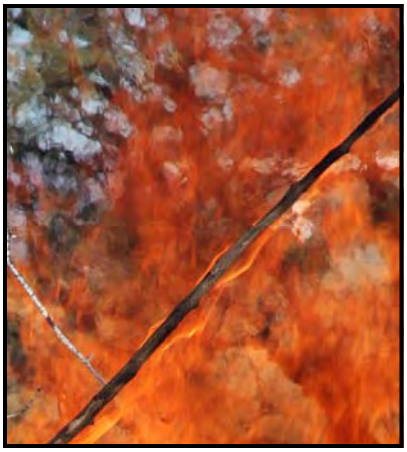
Classic Car Enthusiasts, Bob and Alana Baker



COMMUNITY PHOTO GALLERY-

Fire and Sky, nature's palette





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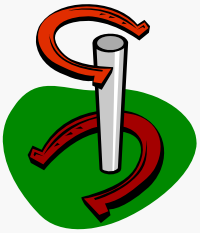

4TH SAT.

KARIOKE

7:00 P.M.

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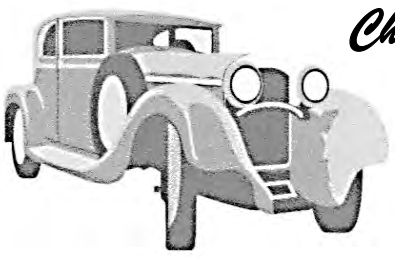

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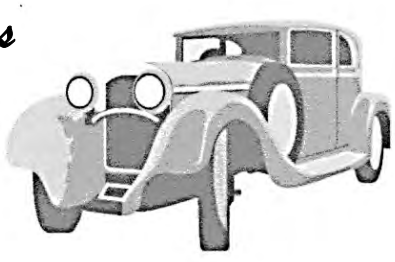

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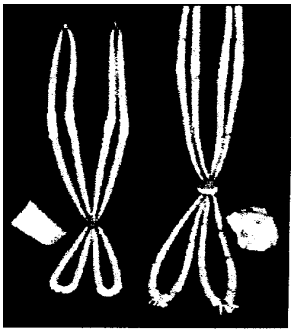

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Western, English, Jumping, Horsemanship, Showing, Driving

1st Saturday

RANCH GYMKHANA
9:00 A.M.

2nd Saturday

PRACTICE JUMP SERIES

Clinic 8 A.M.
Practice 9 A.M.

www.J-SixEqCtr.com

3036 Williams **586-7551**

SUSAN'S SENSE OF STYLE

Family Hairstyling, Colors, Perms, Highlighting

Shampoo Haircut $15
Men's $10 - 15
Children 10 and under $11

118 S. Huachuca St

586-4657

OPEN

MON 9 - 5
TUES 9 - 12
THURS - SAT 9 - 5

MESCAL BAR AND GRILL

..come on in out of the cold...

A LITTLE HUNGRY.....

Fried Combo Basket (Chicken Strips, O.R. F.F., Poppers, Cheese Sticks	$ 8.00
Onion Rings or Cheese Sticks or Poppers	$ 4.50
Nacho Basket	$ 1.75
Nacho Supreme Basket (Beef and Beans and all the goodies)	$ 7.00
French Fries—lightly coated $ 1.75, Green or Red Chili Cheese	$ 2.75
Chicken Wings(6 your choice BBQ, Hot, or Salt& Pepper)	$ 4.50
Green Chili Cheese Quesadilla (W/Beef .50 Extra)	$ 3.50

I-10 Exit 297

(520) 586-3905

.....REALLY HUNGRY

Philly Cheese Steak Sub—Top Sirloin—(Choice of Onions, Mushrooms, Peppers, Jalapenos) Aujus .50 extra	$6.50
Half Pound Burger—90% Lean Fresh Ground (Cheese or Green Chilies just .50 cents extra)	$5.00
French Dip Sub—Top Sirloin w/Aujus	$6.00
Meatball Sub—3 BIG Meatballs and sauce	$6.00
Chicken Strips (4) (Ranch, Honey Mustard, or BBQ Sauce)	$4.50
BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich	$5.50
Alabacore Tuna Sandwich (Made fresh with Onion, Celery, Olives)	$5.00

Sides—just add $1.00—French Fries, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad or Cottage Cheese.

Mescal
AUTO SERVICE, LLC

Great Service. Fair Prices.

ALL MAKES AND MODELS
520 586-7792

3186 W. Ripple Rd.
Benson, AZ 85602
Mescal @ I-10, Exit 297

OPEN 24 /7 FOR ALL YOUR MARKET NEEDS!

THE QUICK PIC

586- 2163 62 N. OAK

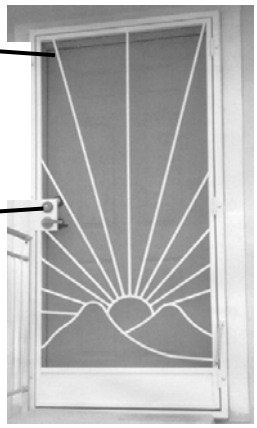
NEW INVENTORY

Clothing

Fruits and Veggies

Neighborhood Choice for Morning Coffee!!!

I-RON DESIGNS



METAL ART FOR THE HOME AND YARD

- Ornamental Iron
- Screen Doors
- Window Guards
- Gates
- Fences
- Yard Sculptures
- Over-sized doors of all kinds

RON PEARO
586-2938
221-1589
3327 W. Maverick Pl.
Benson, Ariz.
Bus. Lic. 02-023854R

BULLETIN BOARD

CALL TO POST YOUR FREE AD - 586-1233

Click on Business Ads and Specials on the Home Page!

WANTED

Our neighborhood is the home of many retired professionals who continue to utilize their talents when there is a need. Many of these individuals do not advertise but are available via word of mouth.

For two months, we want to tweak this concept to see if these postings serve a community need.

So if you need some one with a special skill, post a note here and let us help you connect with

- **an accountant**
- **health-care giver**
- **notary**
- **driver**
- **house keeper**
- **babysitter**
- **????????**

THIS ONE IS FOR YOU - JUST CALL!

CHECK THE WEB FOR FREQUENT UPDATES

SERVICES

HORSESHOEING: Lifetime Experience, Float Teeth, Training Available. Barry Simpson - 928.651.4388 Visa, MC accepted

HANDYMAN: Creative / Innovative Solutions to home repair problems. Carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, & drywall. By the job or hourly rate. 25+ years experience. Call DANNY 520-265-3531, 720-6080, 406-1121 cell. Not a Licensed Contractor.

SPECIALIZING IN HARLEY DAVIDSON & INDIAN MOTORCYCYLES - Complete Motor and Tranny Rebuilding, All Service Work, 75 years combined experience, Custom Bikes Built, Antique Restorations, Secure Storage, 24 Hour Towing. REDBEARD MOTORCYCLE COMPANY - 3095 W. Greenpark Dr. Mescal, Az, Exit 297 1-520-955-1122

USED COMPUTER SALES AND SERVICE. Software and hardware issues. Upgrades and training. Laptops and desktops. Call Gary at 586-9335

FOR SALE

TRI-COMMUNITY NEWS

J6/Mescal CDO
3111 Clark Road
Benson, Arizona 85602

Mail to a Friend:

Volume 5 Issue 10
NOVEMBER ISSUE

IN THIS ISSUE:

PACKED WITH NEWS!

MAIL TODAY!

J-6 / Mescal Community Development Organization

MEMBERSHIP FORM - CALENDAR YEAR 2009

Name of members for given address:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Physical Address:

_____

_____ZIP_____

Email Address:

_____

Phone: _____

All residents and property owners within the J-6, Mescal, Skyline and surrounding areas are eligible to join.

Households may have more than one member. Each member must be at least 18 years old.

Each membership is $ 10.00

Each member is entitled to cast one vote for meeting action items.

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAY FOR:

- Operating expenses such as copies, postage, printing, phone bills, and office supplies
- Production costs for the Tri-Community Newsletter and web-site.

Bring to next meeting or mail to : Nancy Upp, 412 S. Many Winds Rd., Benson, Az