



SIERRA VISTA

THE HERALD

NEWS ONLINE AT WWW.SVHERALD.COM

SATURDAY JULY 4, 2009 — 50 cents



MARINES ADVANCE

4,000-strong U.S. force meets little resistance in Afghan campaign.

NATION/WORLD, A8

PALIN TO RESIGN

Former VP nominee won't say why she is leaving Alaska post.

NATION/WORLD, A7

EVENTS TODAY

Many activities are planned for Independence Day celebrations.

COMMUNITY, A2

Flags fly at border



MARK LEVY-HERALD/REVIEW

American Border Patrol volunteers decorate the border fence dividing Mexico and the United States with American flags and banners Friday in Hereford.

Fort Huachuca contributes to celebration of July Fourth

BY BILL HESS
HERALD/REVIEW

FORT HUACHUCA — The U.S. Army has had a long history with the Fourth of July, beginning on July 4, 1776, when the United States declared its independence.

Today, soldiers from Fort Huachuca will take part in a number of events as the area celebrates the nation's 233 years of independence.

This morning, displays and demonstrations from different post units can be viewed at Veterans' Memorial Park in Sierra Vista.

Soldiers of the Unmanned Aerial Systems Training Battalion will have a Shadow unmanned aerial vehicle on display, which will include the aircraft, launcher and shelter.

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade soldiers will have a special vehicle on display.

Soldiers from the 11th Signal Brigade, a unit considered to be the most deployed combat support organization in the Army, will display and talk about communications equipment, some of which is being used in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dogs and their soldier handlers from the 18th Military Police Detachment will conduct a military working dog demonstration and military police officers also will have a fingerprint table available.

As part of the Army's history, members of B Troop, 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment (Memorial) will have an encampment set up and during the official part of the ceremony in the park, troopers will deliver the Sierra Vista

See FORT HUACHUCA, Page A10

Anti-illegal-immigration rally held in Palominas

BY BILL HESS
HERALD/REVIEW

PALOMINAS — It isn't along a highway, but Glenn Spencer's billboard along the American-Mexican border carries a special message to those responsible for the nation's security: Finish the Job.

The day before the Fourth of July, Spencer, who heads the private nonprofit American Border Patrol (which should not be confused with the federal U.S. Border Patrol), and a number of help-

ers placed 3,000 small American flags and messages on part of the 18-foot high border fence, changing a 60-foot stretch of rusty metal into colorful patches of red, white and blue.

This is the second year during the national independence holiday that he has placed Old Glory and messages on a stretch of the border fence.

Last year the international boundary near his ranch — consisting of five stands of barbed wire about three-foot tall — was similarly decorated, and through

openings in the more substantial fence some of the flags and notes that remain can be seen. The old fence is six feet north from the actual border, and the newer structure three feet north of the old one.

As flags and messages were being attached, U.S. Border Patrol agents drove along the dirt road, and each time they passed the group words of support came from the individuals, along with waves.

See FLAGS, Page A10

Tombstone schools looking at possible tax hike

BY DANA COLE
HERALD/REVIEW

TOMBSTONE — Residents living in the Tombstone Unified School District could be facing a property tax increase, if approved by the school board.

The school district will be holding a public hearing to discuss the proposed tax increase at its upcoming board meeting on Wednesday. The meeting starts at 6 p.m. and will be at the new high school, 1211 Yellow Jacket Way in Tombstone.

In compliance with state law, the school district's truth-in-taxation hearing is to notify property tax

payers of the district's intention to raise primary property taxes. Faced with impending expenditures during the upcoming school year, the tax increase will go toward funding those expenses. The governing board has the authority to increase the district's property taxes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009.

The school district is proposing an increase in its primary property tax levy of \$140,000. That amount will cause the primary property taxes on a \$100,000 home to increase from \$60.90 to \$84.86, which translates to a projected annual increase of \$23.96.

There is mixed reaction among

school board members regarding the tax hike.

Ben Barber, who is the board president, says the school district's primary concern is the ongoing problem with water supply at the new high school building. It's a problem that comes with an estimated \$250,000 price tag to resolve.

Representatives from the state's School Facilities Board have visited the high school and evaluated different problems regarding the water issue, as well as the building's construction. They informed school administrators and board members that there is no money left in state coffers to fund the necessary re-

pairs at this time, Barber said.

"They did say there may be a possibility of stimulus funds at a later date, but they weren't even definite about that source," Barber said. "At this point in time there are two major concerns for us. Supplying adequate water in the reservoir, enough for firefighting, is one issue, and supplying adequate water to the school building for the students is another."

Barber says it's imperative that the high school's water issue is resolved as quickly as possible. "The district has provided us with a list

See TOMBSTONE, Page A5

Creative, crazy karts roll through Bisbee during Fourth festivities

BY ADAM CURTIS
HERALD/REVIEW

BISBEE — Residents came out in droves on Friday night to check out some creative coasters while enjoying free samples of locally-produced beer, bratwurst and live music.

Cleverly named "Brauts for B.R.A.T.S.," the party was hosted by the Bisbee Rolling Arts Society and served as a preview of about 14 custom gravity cars, which will be rolling down Main Street before the coaster race begins today. The event, which encourages artistic and mechanical creativity rather

than competition, was organized by local artists Poe Dismuke and Andrew Nelson.

"The coaster race is a big event here, and we were just trying to spice it up," Dismuke said. "There are lots of artists in this community, and it seemed that this was the perfect marriage of both events and a good fit for this town."

The rules for making a coaster are simple: You can't spend more than \$200, it must have three or more wheels, it must be steerable and stoppable, and you can't take yourself too seriously,

See KARTS, Page A5



MARK LEVY-HERALD/REVIEW

Artist Poe Dismuke rolls one of the B.R.A.T.S. (Bisbee Rolling Arts Transport Society) "KARS" in the Central School Project parking lot during Friday's preview party. Riding in the vehicle are sisters Zia, 5, left, and Kaili Anderson, 4. The event is the brainchild of Poe and fellow artist Andrew Nelson.



INDEX
COMMUNITY A2
OPINION A4
MOVIE LISTINGS A5
NATION/WORLD A7-8

SPORTS B1
LOTTERY B3
ENTERTAINMENT B4-5
CROSSWORD B5
CLASSIFIEDS D1

TOMORROW
BISBEE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB: Walmart Foundation provides a big donation.

EVENT OF THE DAY
FOURTH OF JULY: Please see page A2 today or visit svherald.com for a listing of events.



This paper is published for all Americans as we celebrate the nation's birthday.