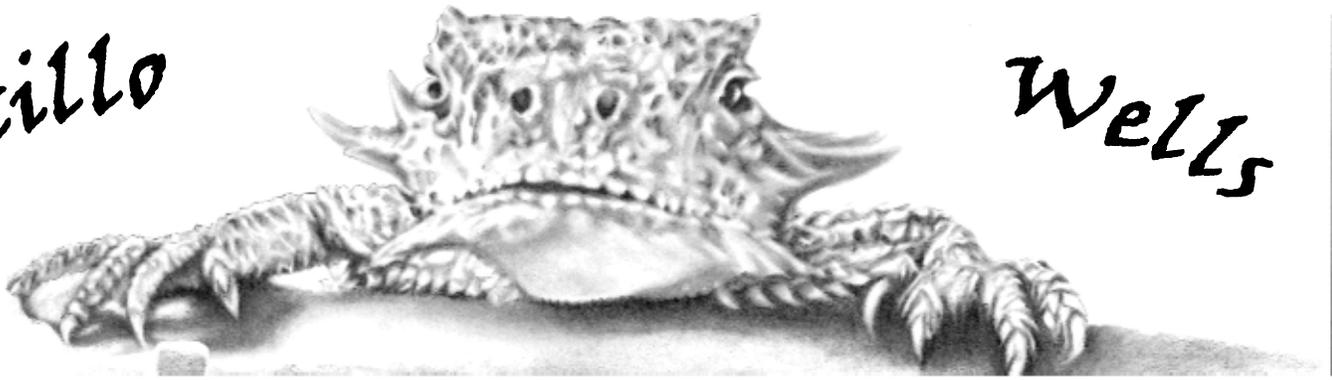


Ocotillo

Wells



## Interpretive Schedule

**Welcome to Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area!**

**This is your guide to an adventure-filled weekend.**

**Come see live glowing scorpions and discover how the “pumpkins” are formed. View the night sky through a telescope and learn about the stars. Discover OW’s local residents at our Desert Animal Exhibit. There are even opportunities to become Junior Rangers. We hope to see you there!**

**Saturday, January 15th, 2011**

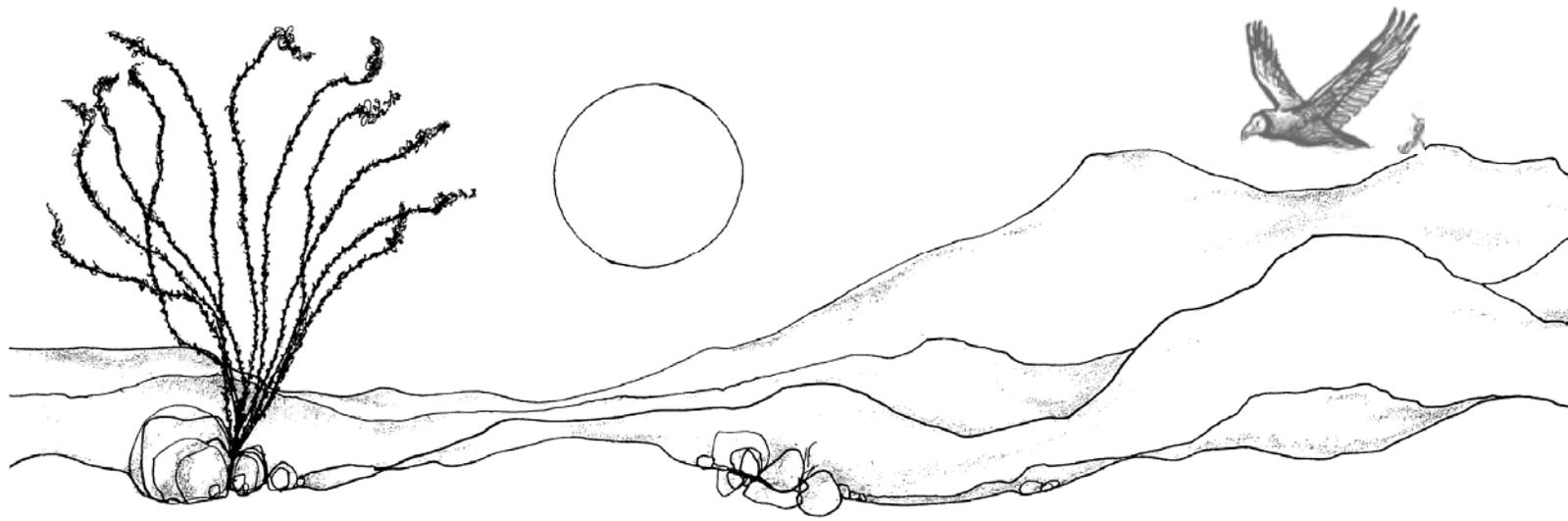
**8:00 am to 10:00 am**

**Coffee with the Naturalist at the Youth Track**

Join our Park Naturalist for a free cup of fresh-brewed coffee or hot chocolate before you head out on the trail! Stop by the Youth Track on Ranger Station Rd. to enjoy a hot beverage, great conversation, and find out what exciting interpretive programs will be offered throughout the weekend.



*With its bare red face and wingspan that reach nearly six feet, the turkey vulture is an ominous looking bird of the southwest. These scavengers use their keen sense of smell to locate carrion. Like their relatives the storks, turkey vultures will often defecate on their own legs. The evaporation of the water in their feces cools the bird on hot days.*



**Saturday, January 15th, 2011**

**10:00 am to 4:00 pm Talking “Pumpkins” with the Geologist**

Join our Park Interpreters for a great time learning about our geologic past. Located at the Pumpkin Patch you will find us set up to tell you how the “pumpkins” were formed. Polish your rock identification skills with “*Rock-otillo*” and win an excellent prize.

**11:00 am Junior Ranger Program at the Discovery Center**

This week our Junior Rangers will be talking about some of the fun and exciting things located right here in Ocotillo Wells. This program is for kids ages 7 to 12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

**12:00 pm to 4:00 pm Animal Skulls, Skins, Tracks, and Scat at the Discovery Center**

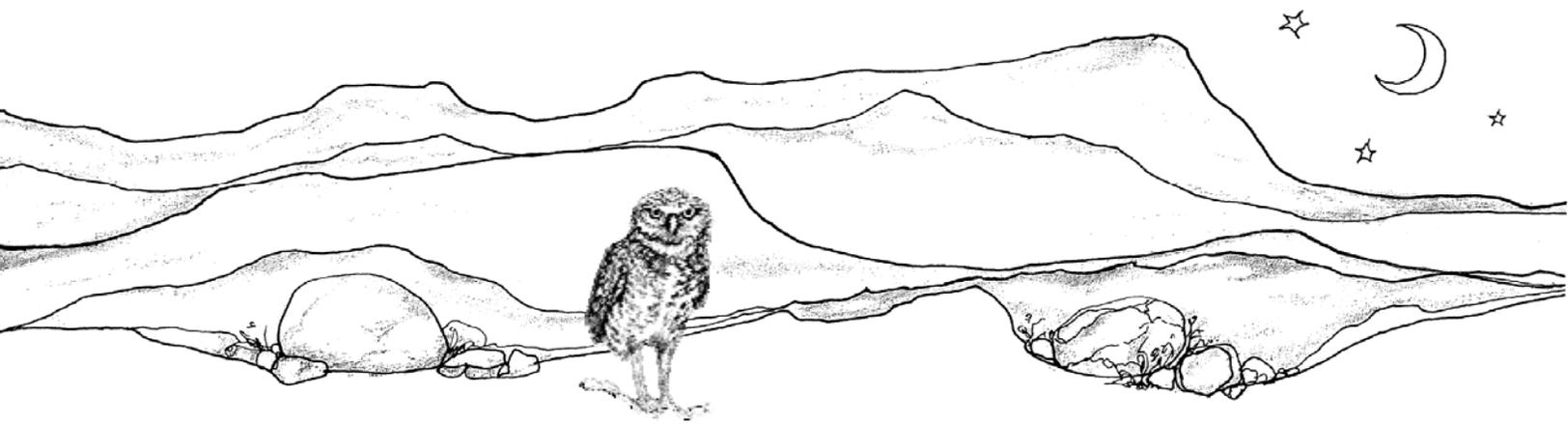
Want to know what animals have been poking around your campsite at night? Identifying their scat and tracks helps us to discover the wildlife that calls Ocotillo Wells home. Join our Interpreters at the Pumpkin Patch to learn about how these amazing creatures have adapted to survive in this harsh environment.



*About the size of a housecat, the kit fox weighs only 3 to 5 pounds! To survive in the hot, dry deserts this canid lives in underground dens year-round.*

**\*\*PROGRAMS MAY BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER\*\***





## Saturday, January 15th, 2011

### 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Junior Ranger Explorer Zone at the Discovery Center

Join us at the Discovery Center anytime between 1pm and 3pm for an action-packed afternoon of games, crafts, and exciting fun facts about your favorite state park!

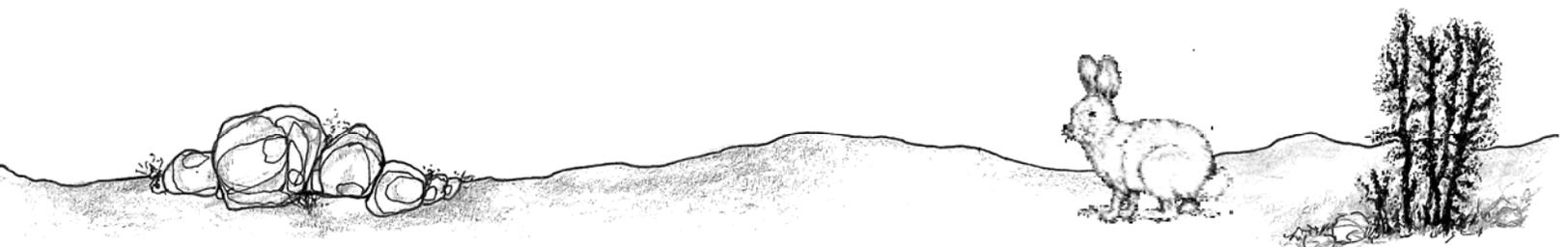
### 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Evening Program—Stargazing

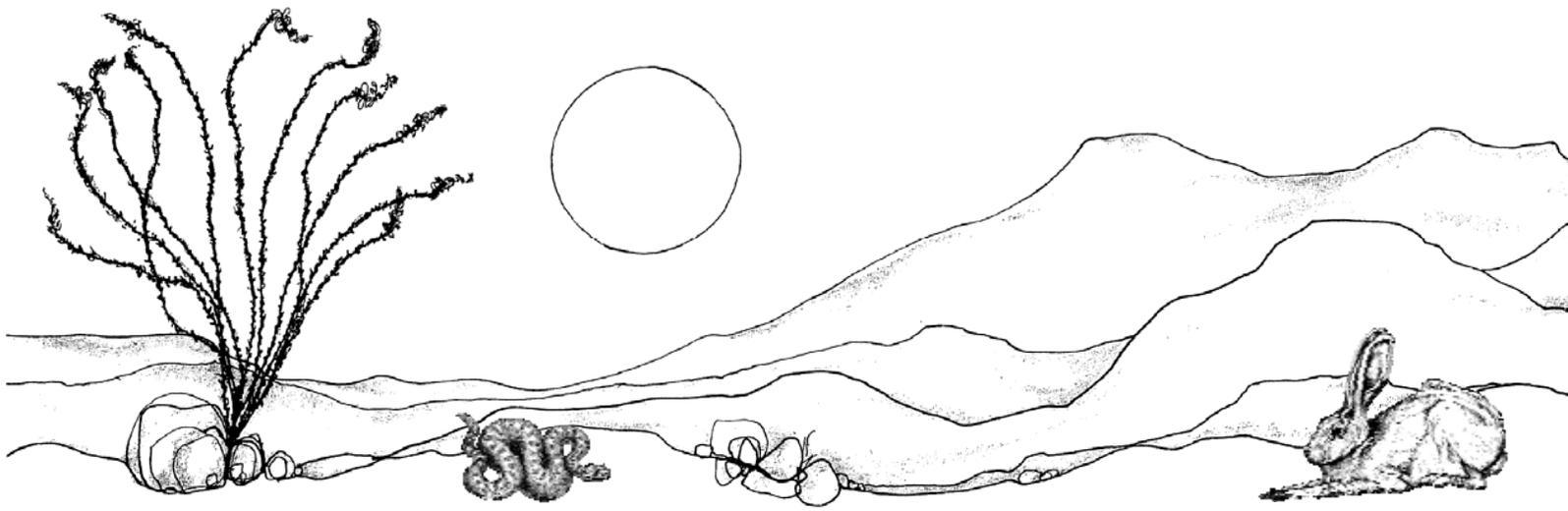
Join us at our Amphitheatre located behind the Ranger Station for an incredible look at our night sky. Our Park Interpreters will amaze you with views of stars and planets. You will revel in close-ups of the moon's craters and lunar seas. Wear warm clothing and be prepared to enjoy hot chocolate at this wonderful family event.



*The burrowing owl makes its home in the abandoned burrows of other animals, most commonly ground squirrels and prairie dogs. This small owl, measuring about eight inches, feeds on insects, lizards, and rodents. When feeling threatened, it may mimic a rattlesnake's rattle to ward off predators!*

**\*\*PROGRAMS MAY BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER\*\***





## **Sunday, January 16th, 2011**

**8:00 am to 10:00 am**

### **Coffee with the Naturalist at the Youth Track**

Join our Park Naturalist for a free cup of fresh-brewed coffee or hot chocolate before you head out on the trail! Stop by the Youth Track on Ranger Station Rd. to enjoy a hot beverage, great conversation, and find out what exciting interpretive programs will be offered throughout the weekend.

**10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

### **Desert Animal Extravaganza at Shell Reef**

Join us at Shell Reef for an intimate look into the lives of some of Ocotillo Wells' year-round residents! Take a close-up look at a live glow-in-the-dark scorpion. Also, make sure you play the hit trivia game, "*Who's Scat is That*" and win your own "Golden Scat" award.

**10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

### **Talking Bubbles at Gas Domes**

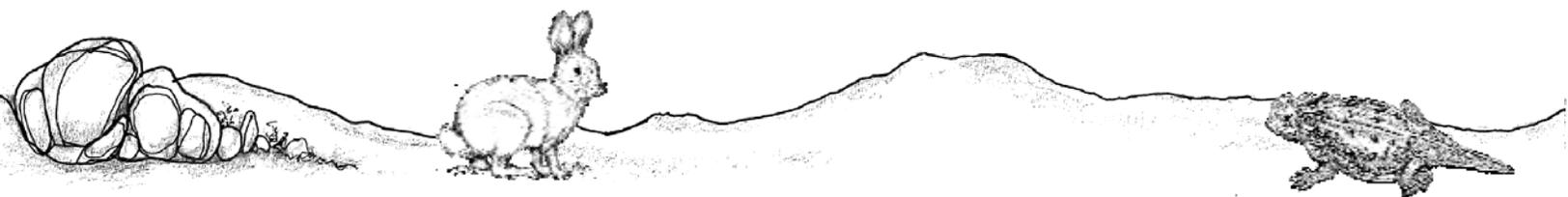
Join our Park Interpreters for a great time talking about this geological feature. You will find us set up at the Gas Domes to help you discover many fascinating facts about this area. Come find out why the domes bubble!

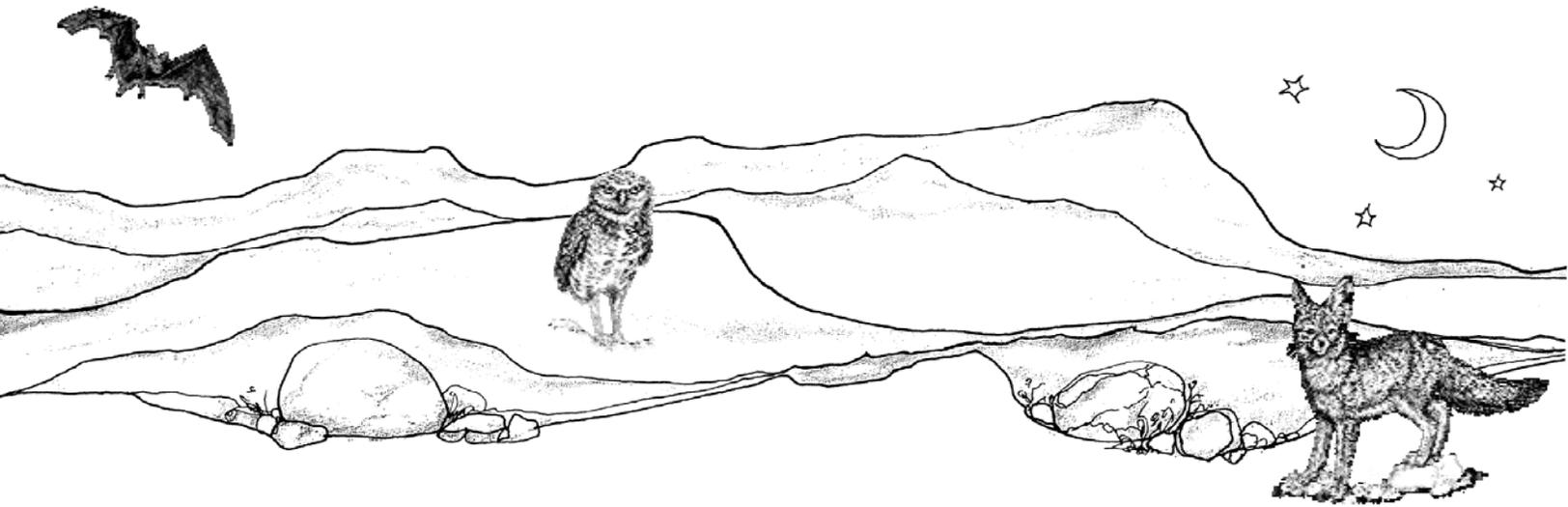
**11:00 am**

### **Junior Ranger Program at the Discovery Center**

This week our Junior Rangers will be talking about some of the fun and exciting things located right here in Ocotillo Wells. This program is for kids ages 7 to 12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

**\*\*PROGRAMS MAY BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER\*\***





## Sunday, January 16th, 2011

### 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm    **Animal Skulls, Skins, Tracks, and Scat at the Discovery Center**

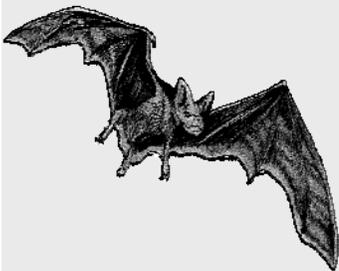
Do you want to know what animals have been poking around your campsite at night? Stop by the Discovery Center to discover the wildlife at Ocotillo Wells. Check out our Skulls, Skins, Tracks, and Scat exhibit. Play the hit trivia game "Who's Scat is That?" and win you own "Golden Scat" award.

### 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm    **Junior Ranger Explorer Zone at the Discovery Center**

Join us at the Discovery Center anytime between 1pm and 3pm for an action-packed afternoon of games, crafts, and exciting fun facts about your favorite state park!

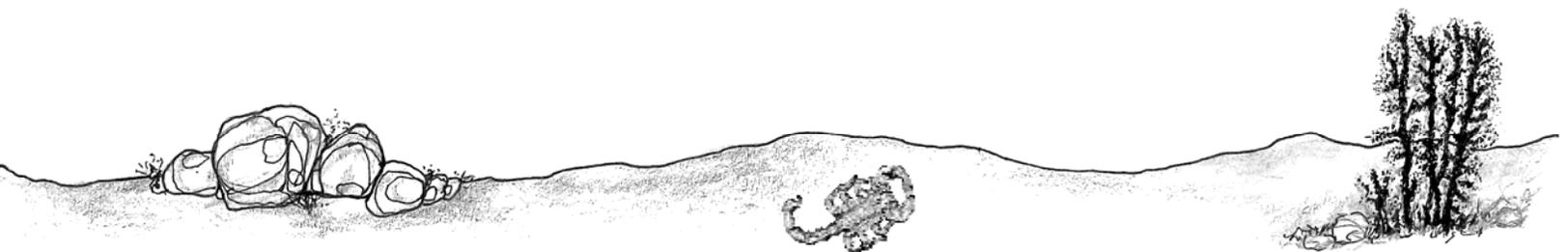
### 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm    **Evening Program—Stargazing**

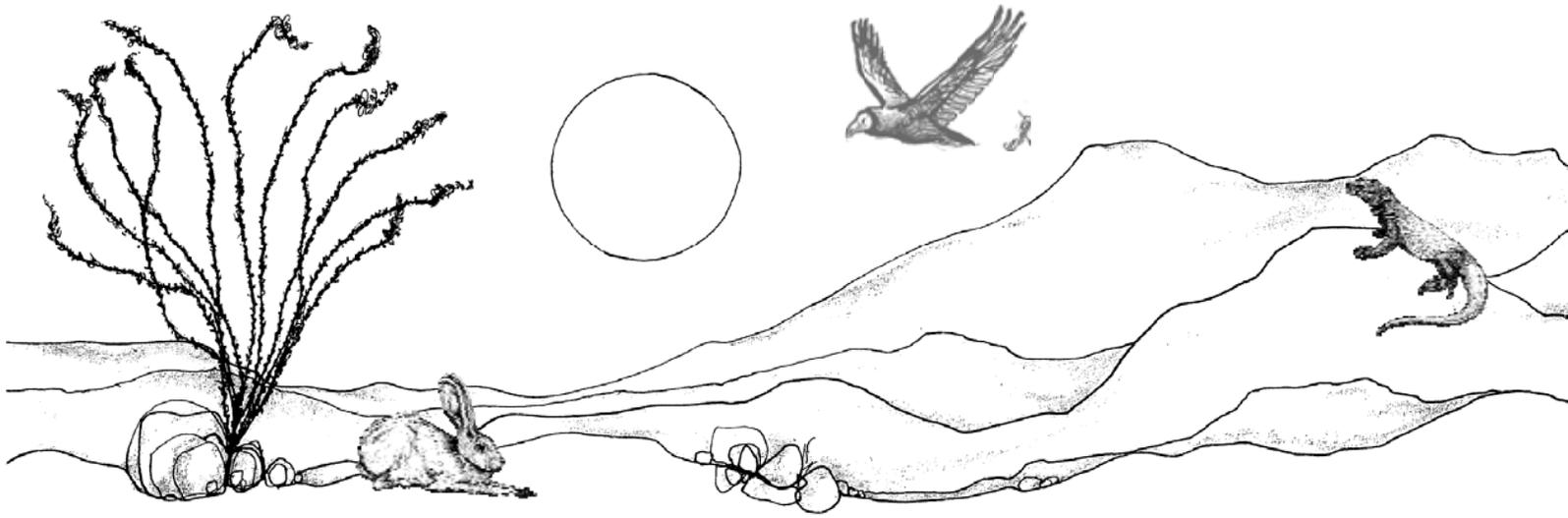
Join us at our Amphitheatre located behind the Ranger Station for an incredible look at our night sky. Our Park Interpreters will amaze you with views of stars and planets. You will revel in close-ups of the moon's craters and lunar seas. Wear warm clothing and be prepared to enjoy hot chocolate at this wonderful family event.



*Often steeped in falsehoods and superstition, bats have earned undeserved reputations as being dirty, disease carriers, and even blood-sucking vampires! They consume numerous pests that are harmful to crops and serve as pollinators for many flowers that are important to the health of our ecosystem.*

**\*\*PROGRAMS MAY BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER\*\***





## Monday, January 17th, 2011

### 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Desert Animal Extravaganza at Crossover Trail

Join us at Crossover Trail for an intimate look into the lives of some of Ocotillo Wells' year-round residents! Take a close-up look at a live glow-in-the-dark scorpion. Also, make sure you play the hit trivia game, "Who's Scat is That?" and win your own "Golden Scat" award.

### 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Talking "Pumpkins" with the Geologist

Join our Park Interpreters for a great time learning about our geologic past. Located at the Pumpkin Patch you will find us set up to tell you how the "pumpkins" were formed. Polish your rock identification skills with "Rock-otillo" and win an excellent prize.

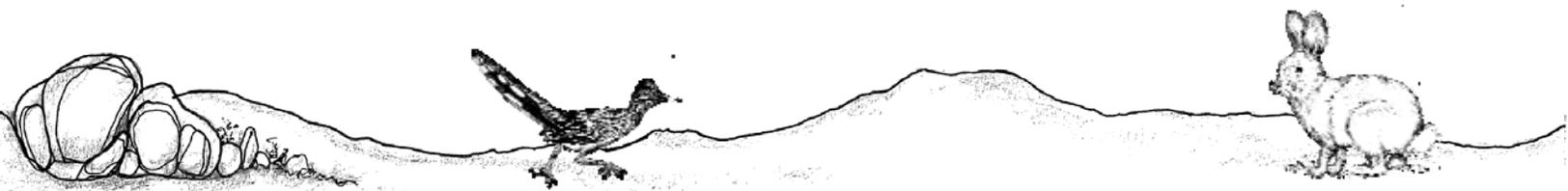
### 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Talking Bubbles at Gas Domes

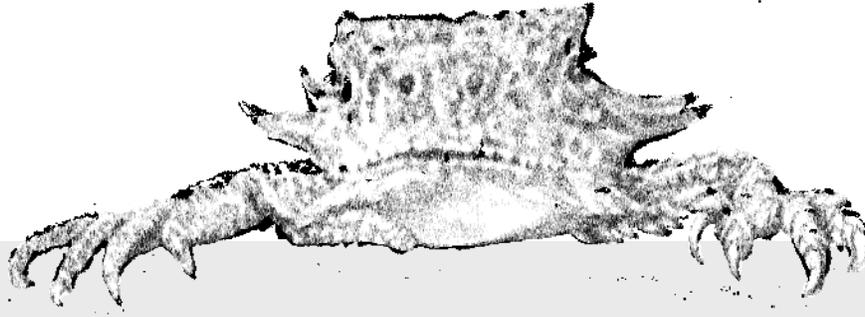
Join our Park Interpreters for a great time talking about this geological feature. You will find us set up at the Gas Domes to help you discover many fascinating facts about this area. Come find out why the domes bubble!

### 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Adventure on the Go at Gas Domes

Calling all kids! Stop by Gas Domes to discover all of the fun and adventure Ocotillo Wells has to offer.

**\*\*PROGRAMS MAY BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER\*\***





*The wonders of Ocotillo Wells are here for your discovery. While visiting us, take time to enjoy the subtle things around you, they are worthy of your exploration.*

## **Upcoming Events**

**Take a look at Ocotillo Wells Off-Road Tour Series:**

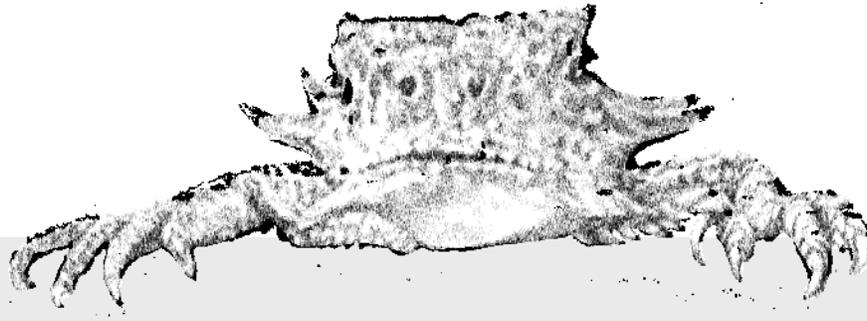
### **“Wildcats” and Oilmen at Ocotillo Wells 2/11/11**

“OIL! OIL!OIL!OIL!” proclaims an early 20th-century advertisement from Imperial County. Come and discover the mostly hidden story of roughnecks, adventurers, geologists, would-be oilmen, and a few schemers who explored our desert in the hopes of striking it rich in black gold. Join Ocotillo Wells’ last remaining “wildcatter” oilman, Mr. Doyle, for a colorful and in-depth tour through this history of high hopes and financial shenanigans.

### **Moon Over Ocotillo Wells – Full Moon Tour 2/18/11**

Join us to explore the desert by moonlight! Have you ever gazed at the moon and had a flood of curious questions about it? How did it get there? Why do animals behave so differently during a full moon? What stories have been told about the moon in other cultures than our own? Join our Naturalists at Ocotillo Wells on an off-highway adventure to admire the full moon on February 18th, as well as ask those pesky questions that drive you “loony!” **\*This tour meets at the Discovery Center at 5pm and lasts until 9pm.\***





*The wonders of Ocotillo Wells are here for your discovery. While visiting us, take time to enjoy the subtle things around you, they are worthy of your exploration.*

## *Upcoming Events*

### **Take a look at Ocotillo Wells Off-Road Tour Series: Bug and Flower Tour 3/11/11**

The flowers have arrived and the desert is abuzz with the news! Join us on an adventure that will not only highlight the gorgeous wildflowers of Ocotillo Wells, but also the small invertebrates that depend on them for survival. From jeweled beetles to the tiny primrose to the humble ant, we will be able to see a small fraction of the diversity of Ocotillo Wells. What you see will astound you with its enduring beauty.

Unless otherwise advertised, these tours meet at the Discovery Center at 9:00 am and last until approximately 1:00 pm. Come prepared for these excursions with a high clearance, 4wd vehicle, plenty of water, lunch, and most important, a sense of adventure! Call (760) 767-5393 for more information.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Additional tours for groups may be available Wednesday through Saturday, if organized in advance. For more information please contact Andrew Fitzpatrick at 760-767-5068 or [adfitzpatrick@parks.ca.gov](mailto:adfitzpatrick@parks.ca.gov).



#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ocotillo Wells SVRA  
Interpretation Department  
5172 Highway 78  
Borrego Springs, CA 92004  
(760) 767-5393

[www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/ocotillowells](http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/ocotillowells)

