

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA

TRAVELER

BENSON • BISBEE • ELGIN/SONOITA • FORT HUACHUCA • SAFFORD • SIERRA VISTA • TOMBSTONE • WILLCOX

YOUR ANNUAL GUIDE

ATTRACTIONS - DINING - LODGING

SHOPPING - EVENTS

 READ IT ONLINE!

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA

TRAVELER

BENSON • BISBEE • ELGIN/SONOITA • FORT HUACHUCA • SAFFORD • SIERRA VISTA • TOMBSTONE • WILLCOX

YOUR ANNUAL GUIDE

ATTRACTIONS - DINING - LODGING

SHOPPING - EVENTS

 READ IT ONLINE!

NEW 2

BUSINESS & SERVICE

CLICK HERE

NEW 2

BUSINESS & SERVICE

CLICK HERE

[Home](#) » [Community](#)

Ravens Way

nature sanctuaries raise environmental awareness

Tue, 07/24/2012 - 11:40pm



At Raven's Nest they compost all their food scraps along with other organic matter and former plant parts such as small branches, dry grass clippings, and leaves. Composting is the basis for growing the healthiest, most nutritious, and disease-resistant edible plants. Photos courtesy www.ravensnatureschool.com.

(CLICK on photo above, to see even more photos from this story)



[Printer-friendly version](#)



[Send to friend](#)

Information from Vincent Pinto, Ravens Way
Naturalist, wildlife biologist and outdoor instructor Vincent Pinto has been teaching people of all ages, interests, and backgrounds about the natural world since 1987. He has led individuals and groups throughout the country on trips of discovery on a myriad of topics — bird-watching, ethnobotany, tracking, stone-age skills, wilderness survival skills, astronomy, wildlife habitat restoration, sustainable living practices and more.

Vince has learned his unique skills through countless hours of experimentation, via profound experiences in nature throughout North America and the world, and from some of the field's leading teachers. He believes in providing detailed one-on-one



[S](#)

USE

Business & Services

CLICK HERE

DINE

Restaurants & Bars

CLICK HERE

the good

YOUR SHOPPING DIRECTORY

RAVENS-WAY WILD JOURNEYS

- [Read the Paper Online](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Stories by Author](#)
- [What Is Going On](#)
- [Recent Comments](#)
- [Comics](#)
- [Puzzles](#)
- [Horoscopes](#)
- [Southeast Arizona Traveler](#)
- [Business and Services Directory Online](#)
- [Religious Services Directory](#)
- [Vista 411](#)
- [Living Green](#)
- [TV Listings](#)
- [Movie Times and Information](#)
- [Community Links](#)
- [Search Public Notices](#)
- [Contact our staff](#)
- [My account](#)
- [Create content](#)
- [Customer Support FAQ](#)
- [Order Photo Reprints](#)
- [Take a virtual tour of our press facilities](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Reader Rewards FAQ](#)
- [Faith & Spirituality Page](#)
- [The Pegasus \(BHS\)](#)

SUPERIOR

COMMERCIAL CLEANING



LICENSED & INSURED • (520) 227-1246
SUPERCLEAN363@MSN.COM

SUPERIOR

COMMERCIAL CLEANING



LICENSED & INSURED • (520) 227-1246
SUPERCLEAN363@MSN.COM

instruction to each student, carefully guiding them through various experiences to maximize their enjoyment and learning.

He will be a featured speaker and instructor at this year’s Southwest Wings Birding and Nature Festival coming up the first week of August in Sierra Vista.

Vincent and his wife, Claudia, run Ravens-Way Wild Journeys, which is dedicated to raising environmental awareness through hands-on, experiential and affordable nature programs. Together they own two nature sanctuaries — 42 acres at Raven’s Nest near Lake Patagonia and 50-plus acres at Raven’s Mountain in the foothills of the Chiricahua Mountains. Vince and Claudia, passionate conservationists and environmental stewards, tirelessly protect these special unspoiled habitats. They hope to inspire all to embark upon journeys of nature adventure and earth stewardship.

The topic to be addressed in this article is the sustainable living practices practices workshops that they offer and promote.

Organic Gardening & Composting

Using Earth-friendly techniques, they guide paticipants step by step to create their own organic gardens of nutritious and delicious edibles. They discuss specific design and planning considerations and constraints, including benefits from passive water-harvesting techniques. They’ll teach you the importance of composting, soil testing and preparation, seed propagation and transplanting, companion planting, efficient watering, using local varieties of edible plants, creating useful garden structures, and how to overall nurture healthy edible crops. Participants can learn and practice these time-honored techniques and enjoy their own locally produced, healthy, organic food.

As composting is the basis for growing the healthiest, most nutritious, and most disease-resistant plants, they’ll also teach how to build your own productive compost pile.

At Ravens-Way, they feel that it’s vital for more people to be growing, sharing, trading and selling local, organic produce for the sake of better human and environmental health. In a world of increasingly hungry people with little or no access to healthy fruits, vegetables and herbs it’s essential for all to participate with bio-regional organic gardens.

At Raven’s Nest they compost all their food scraps along with other organic matter and former plant parts such as small branches, dry grass clippings, and leaves. When added to the soil it retains water, adds valuable nutrients and neutralizes the alkalinity of our sky islands soils.

There are many other steps they take in stewardship such as xeriscaping, invasive plant removal, land conservation, habitat management which all come before the next step — rainwater harvesting. To find out about all of these check out their website at www.ravensnatureschool.com.

Rainwater Harvesting

The American Southwest is renowned for its brevity of precipitation and its resultant aridity. Thus, there’s no greater incentive for capturing, storing, and wisely using the little rainwater that makes it to our region.

At Raven’s Nest they’ve implemented a variety of water-harvesting techniques all aimed at maximizing the benefits of our precipitation. Through a combination of passive harvesting structures, such as berms, small check dams, and gavians we’ve begun to “plant the water” in the ground.

These structures pause the water long enough for it to soak more completely into the ground, thus benefiting a diversity of native plants.

As the plants increase and prosper, so too do a great variety of native wildlife species.

Additionally, they actively harvest rainwater off of both their school and abode. At the

- Community Links
- Log out

Most popular stories in the last week

Most Viewed Stories

Most Talked

- [Bear scare ends with hiker falling](#)
Aug 13 2012 Total views: (3,584)
- [Sheriff advises precautions after break-ins](#)
Aug 15 2012 Total views: (1,549)
- ['Person of interest' named in B investigation](#)
Aug 14 2012 Total views: (1,518)
- [Rollover crash sends two to hospital](#)
Aug 16 2012 Total views: (1,430)
- [PC Cochise detention officer released on drug charges](#)
Aug 17 2012 Total views: (1,134)

Sierra Vista Herald
Staff Tweets

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Text Resize

+A

A

-A



Join the

Sierra Vista Herald
Staff Tweets

school the rainwater pipes into a pond where some of it is pumped into their 20,000 gallon rain water holding tanks that in turn provide water for both organic gardens and native plant landscaping.

The pond itself is a mecca for wildlife seeking to drink, bath or feed.

They invite those interested to take a rainwater-harvesting workshop with them and learn how to transform your landscape into a wildlife haven, while decreasing harmful erosion.

They would love to visit your land (however large or small) and to act as consultants, devising an affordable and workable harvesting regime for your site.

They have many other programs, camps, classes and adventures available. They can be contacted at Vincent Pinto, nature-journeys@hotmail.com or (520) 425-6425, or Claudia Campos-Pinto at claudia_campos@post.harvard.edu or (520)519-9966.

If you find a correction for this story, [please contact our editorial department](#)

SHARE

Guidelines: You share in the svherald.com community, so please keep your comments smart, civil, and on topic. Don't attack other readers personally, and keep your language decent. If a comment violates these standards or our terms of service, it will not be posted. Comments which serve no purpose other than to troll or incite will be deleted.

Post new comment

Your name:
[RAVENS-WAY WILD...](#)

Subject:

Comment: *

Content limited to 1000 characters, remaining: 1000

Input format

Notifications

CAPTCHA

This question is for testing whether you are a human visitor and to prevent automated spam submissions.



What code is in the image?: *

Enter the characters (without spaces) shown in the image.

Save Preview

AUTO
LOANS

Your Credit may
not be as bad
as you think!

Call Brian Today!
Se Habla Español

520515-1644

AUTO
LOANS

AUTO
LOANS

Your Credit may
not be as bad
as you think!

Call Brian Today!
Se Habla Español

520515-1644

AUTO
LOANS

Photo Reprints

[Click here to see all of our great photos](#)

News Photos



Spotlight Breakfast / Beya

News Photos



Rescued Cats in Whetstone / Beya



[MattHickman5](#) Glendale Po
man was shot in head in fig
Cardinals–Raiders game. Ra
should have to don another
during preseason.
[13 hours ago](#) · [reply](#) · [retweet](#) · [favo](#)



[AdamCurtisSVH](#) Gov. Jan Br
appointed Sierra Vista marl
director Kay Daggett to the
board to represent the tour
industry.
[yesterday](#) · [reply](#) · [retweet](#) · [favorite](#)



[MattHickman5](#) Buena footb
scrimmages Douglas tonig
on the hallowed field turf o
de Lucas Stadium... Follow
updates.
[yesterday](#) · [reply](#) · [retweet](#) · [favorite](#)



[editorinchiefp](#) Shopping a
sends two to hospital, rolls
Hwy 90 intersection in Sier
goo.gl/gar3Z



Join th

IT'S TIME TO GET
AUGUST B
NOW THROUGH AU



\$39⁹⁹

5-in-1
Inflatable
Chair Bed

Twin Size. Use as armchair,
lounger or recliner with
ottoman, or bed.

Includes air pump.
#8339558

Limited quantity available. While su
Sorry, no rain checks.

CLICK HERE to see
more RED HOT BUYS

Community Photos



Some of Miss Vick's kindergartners/Mark

News Photos



Spotlight Breakfast / Beya

News Photos



Rescued Cats in Whetstone / Beya

Community Photos



Some of Miss Vick's kindergartners/Mark

[See all albums](#)

IT'S TIME TO GET
AUGUST B
NOW THROUGH AU



\$39⁹⁹

**5-in-1
Inflatable
Chair Bed**

Twin Size. Use as armchair,
lounger or recliner with
ottoman, or bed.

Includes air pump.

#8339558

*Limited quantity available. While su
Sorry, no rain checks.*

CLICK HERE to see
more **RED HOT BUYS**

Find us on Facebook



The Sierra Vista Her



4,410 people like The Sierra Vista H



Recent Stories

August				
S	M	T	W	T
			1	
5	6	7	8	
12	13	14	15	1
19	20	21	22	2
26	27	28	29	3

Reader Rewards Leaderboard

User	Reader Rewards
brian	
AZShooter	
Curly	
Tedram	
MyBella	
jmskarhus	
sensei	
Publius	
Kaybee	

Redeem your Reader Rewards

3 months of home delivery from the S

 2,500 points

3 MONTHS
FREE HOME DELIVERY

Add to cart

102 FAB AVE. SIERRA VISTA • 458-9440

[See all of our great offers](#)

Special Sections

