

PRESS RELEASE

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### **Cochise County's Arizona Centennial Exhibit In Bisbee through the month of February**

Bisbee will celebrate Arizona's Centennial with a traveling exhibit – "Cochise County History on the Move" – focusing on the lives and contributions of 33 of the county's most notable historymakers. Walk through history in February as we celebrate 100 years of Arizona statehood, with many of our historymakers beckoning you on the sidewalks of Old Bisbee. In a creative partnership between the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum and Bisbee's Historic District businesses, Cochise County's historymakers will be on display fronting many of our Historic District businesses!

"Cochise County History on the Move," an exhibit sharing the stories of those who made our history, was written by the people of Cochise County for the people of Cochise County," said Carrie Gustavson, co-chair of the Cochise County Arizona Centennial Committee.

"We've selected ranchers, miners, military men, businessmen, women, Apache leaders, and Mexican-Americans that represent the diversity of our county over the last 100 years," Gustavson added.

Among the historymakers are Harrison Lavender, the name behind Bisbee's open pit, George Warren, our near-do-well prospector whose portrait photograph ended up representing Arizona's copper mining on the state seal, or Elsie Toles, a Bisbee High School graduate in 1906 who went on to become Arizona's first woman Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Visitors can enjoy our history while shopping, eating, playing or even overnighting in our Historic District! Participating businesses include the Allen Block, ART Home, Atalanta's Music & Books, Bella Roma Pizza, Bisbee Coffee Company, Bisbee Daily Review, Bisbee Grill, Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, Café Roka, Christopher Hitchcock, PLC., Copper Queen Hotel, Copper Queen Library, the Copper Shop, Czar Jewelry, Eldorado Suites Hotel, Exquisite Design Original Gallery, 55 Main Gallery, Finders Keepers, Gardens at Mile High, Gym Club Suites, Indian Touch, Old Bisbee Brewery Company, Old Bisbee Roasters in Peddler's Alley, Optimo Hats, Panterra Gallery, Sala de Cobre, Santiagos, Screaming Banshee, Singletree, Teeny Tiny Toy Store, and Warm Hands.

For residents, February is a wonderful time to revisit your favorite shops and restaurants while enjoying walking through the Historic District for glimpses into our shared history. Also, residents can pick up their free copy of *Come Face to Face with History*, a 40-page booklet that provides in-depth biographies of the 33 historymakers. The booklets will be distributed, free of charge, while supplies last, at the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, the Bisbee Restoration Museum, and the Copper Queen Library.

Further, Cochise County residents are invited to add their own historical stories and photos on the [www.cochise100.org](http://www.cochise100.org) website, which contains instructions on how to add them. Those documents, along with the exhibit, will be archived in 2013 in the Arizona Memory Project, the state of Arizona's digital archive.

The centennial project involved the volunteers from nearly 40 museums, historical societies, city governments, chambers of commerce, foundations and others. More than \$33,000 in contributions was raised to produce the exhibit, website, newspaper inserts, and booklets.

"The idea behind the traveling exhibit was to give everyone in Cochise County an opportunity to see the exhibit and celebrate the state's centennial," Gustavson said. "We hope that many will also contribute their stories to the website. Through sharing our stories, we bring our communities together."

For more information on the centennial exhibit, contact Carrie Gustavson, Director of the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, at [carrie@bisbeemuseum.org](mailto:carrie@bisbeemuseum.org) or (520) 432-7071.

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