

Letters

Complete protection for our national monument

For 24 years I proudly served my country and our community, first as a Marine, then as a member of the Las Cruces Police Department as a patrol officer, SWAT team member and then as a member of the Neighborhood Patrol Initiative. All of us who served knew that proper policing is attainable only through key partnerships that we build with our citizens and community. We strove to provide service with PRIDE: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence.

The stress that we law enforcement offices take on are many. After long days and even longer weeks, it was my days off when I could load up my dogs in the Bronco and head out into our public lands to re-energize and clear my head for another un-imaginable week.

I was born and raised in Las Cruces and over the past 50 years I have seen the amazing changes in the size and scope of the city. As the city grew, it became more difficult to find a place that had not been altered by the growth of the city. I,

more often than not, came across illegal dump sites and illegal roads that ruined the tranquility I was in search of.

In 2014, with the designation of the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument, I saw the possibility that this may change. It was amazing to see our community stand strong and united around the proper protection of our backyards we all live and play in.

Today, local, state and federal elected champions have again listened to the community and support a bill that will complete our community's vision for protection within the national monument. I and many like me stand united behind the idea to further protect the lands we all play in for future generations.

*Tom Schnebly,
Retired LCPD*

How you can prepare for winter pests

Winter is getting close, so pest problems will decline. What do you need to do to get ready for winter pests? First, if you have a pest company coming by monthly or bimonthly, let them do what they have to do