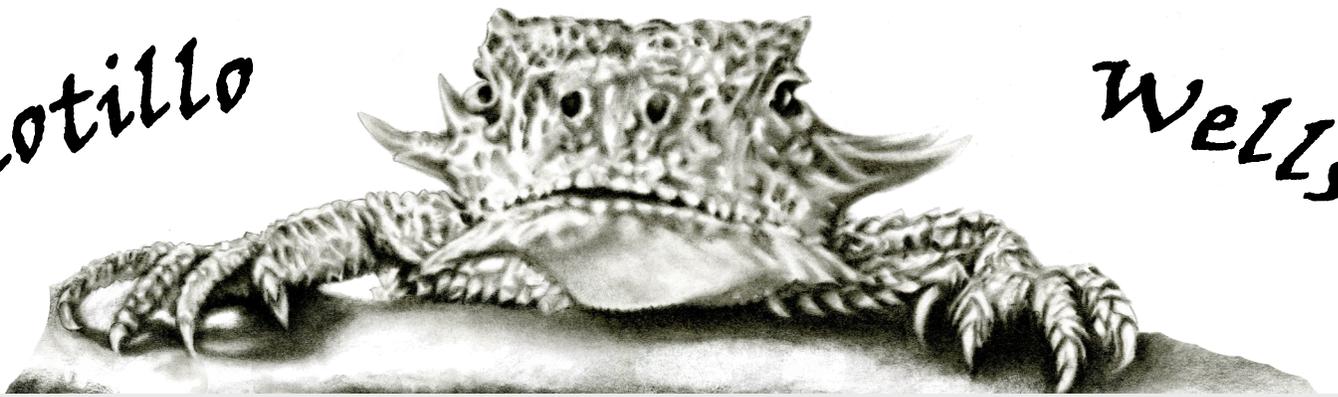


Ocotillo

Wells



## Interpretive Schedule

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

**This is your guide to an adventure-filled  
Thanksgiving 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 geology on an exciting ATV tour. Meet the massive mega-fauna that used to call OW home at our new Gnarly Beasts of the Past Exhibit. There are even opportunities to become Junior Rangers.**

**We hope to see you there!**

**Wednesday, November 23th, 2011**

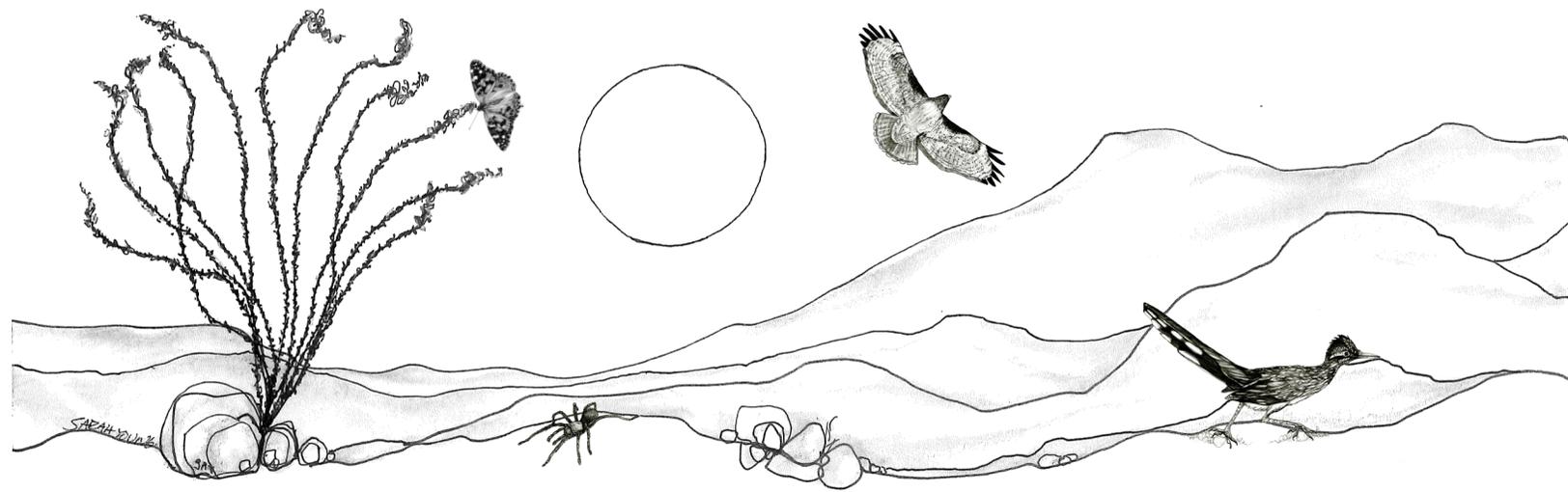
**5:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**Stargazing at the Amphitheatre**

Join us at the amphitheatre, located near the Ranger Station, for an incredible look at our night sky. Our park interpreters will amaze you with views of the moon, stars and planets. Bring a light jacket and be prepared to drink hot chocolate at this family event.



**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.**



## Thursday, November 24th, 2011

### 8:00 am to 10:00 am **Coffee with a Naturalist**

Thirsty for some information? Stop by the shower house off of Ranger Station Road for a delicious cup of coffee or hot chocolate. Grab a map and get the latest and greatest information about the programs Ocotillo Wells has to offer!

### 10:00 am **Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center**

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Learn about a ghost walker, the cougar and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm **Gnarly Beasts of the Past at Pumpkin Patch**

Join us to discover the mega-critters of the past and why they're so gnarly! Picture a shark the size of a bus chasing walruses through the sea above Shell Reef. Check out the skull of the biggest bear that ever walked North America!

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm **Desert Animal Extravaganza at Shell Reef**

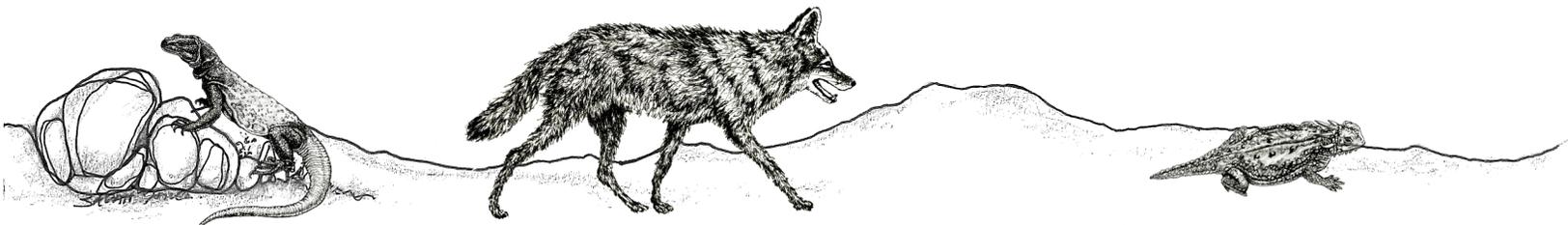
Did you know there are badgers at OW? To learn more about these determined diggers that call Ocotillo Wells home; join us for an intimate look into the lives of the desert's year round residents.

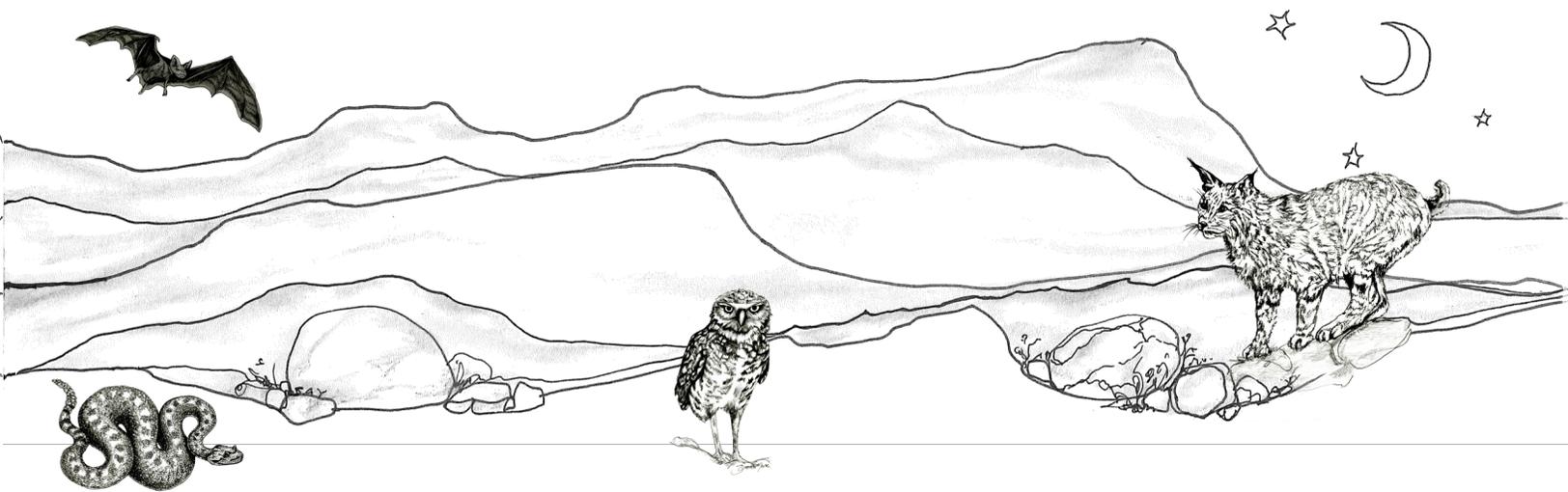
### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm **Talking Bubbles at Gas Domes**

Come learn about what makes the Gas Domes bubble! Join our park interpreters to talk about the amazing forces going on right beneath our feet!

### 12:00 pm **Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center**

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Come learn about Native American games and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.





## Thursday, November 24th, 2011

### 2:00 pm Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Learn about the fun and exciting things located right here at Ocotillo Wells and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

## Friday, November 25th, 2011

### 8:00 am to 10:00 am Coffee with a Naturalist

Thirsty for some information? Stop by the shower house off of Ranger Station Road for a delicious cup of coffee or hot chocolate. Grab a map and get the latest and greatest information about the programs Ocotillo Wells has to offer!

### 10:00 am Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Come explore the desert around us and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

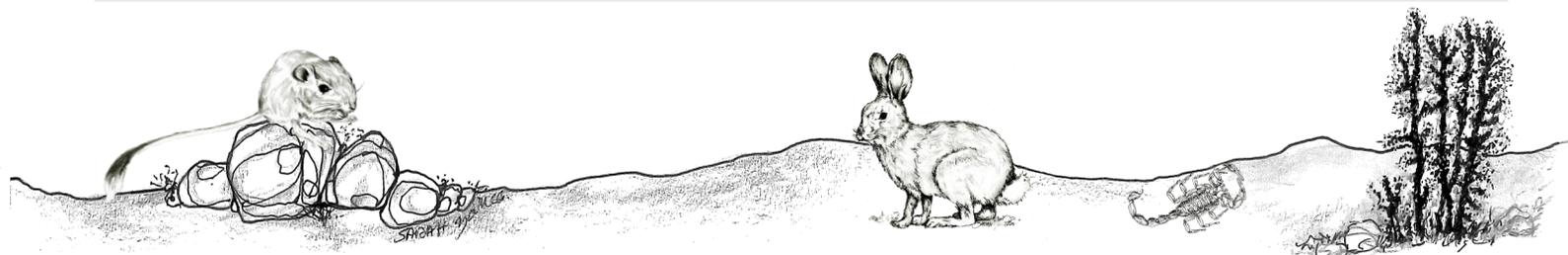
### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Gnarly Beasts of the Past at Pumpkin Patch

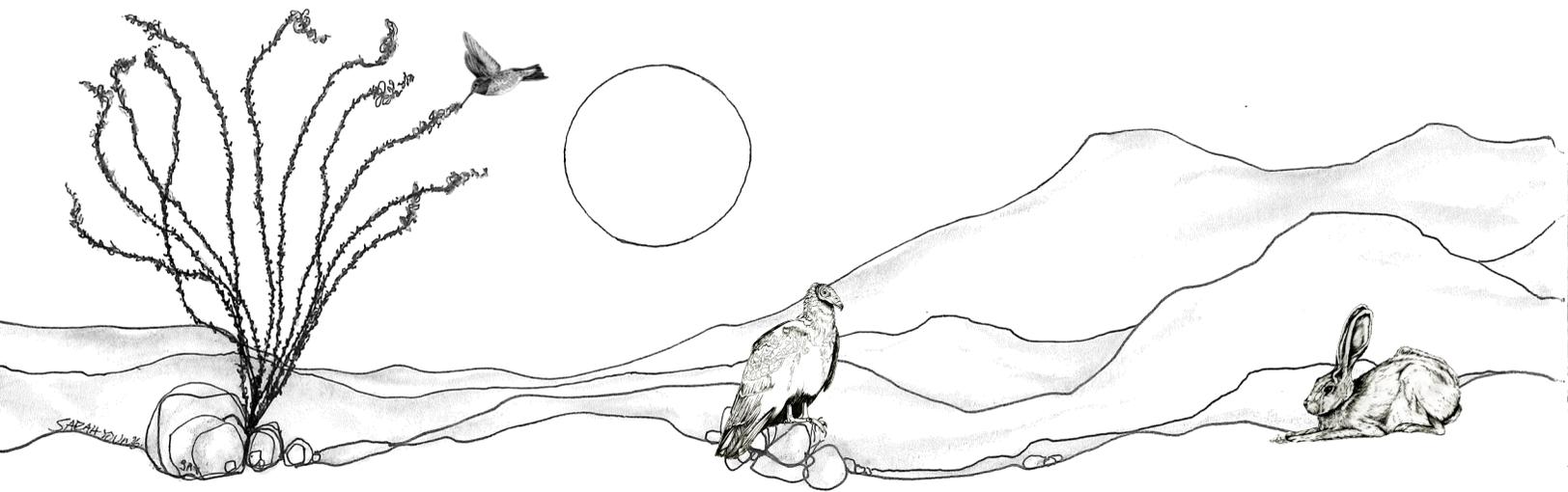
Join us to discover the mega-critters of the past and why they're so gnarly! Picture a shark the size of a bus chasing walrus through the sea above Shell Reef. Check out the skull of the biggest bear that ever walked North America!

### DID YOU KNOW...

Some of OW's park vehicles run on used turkey oil?

Deep frying a turkey this Thanksgiving? This year, consider giving back to OW by dropping off your used oil at the Discovery Center and we'll fill the tank and go!





## Friday, November 25th, 2011

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm **Desert Animal Extravaganza at Shell Reef**

Did you know there are badgers at OW? To learn more about these determined diggers that call Ocotillo Wells home; join us for an intimate look into the lives of the desert's year round residents.

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm **Talking Bubbles at Gas Domes**

Come learn about what makes the Gas Domes bubble! Join our park interpreters to talk about the amazing forces going on right beneath our feet!

### 12:00 pm **Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center**

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Learn about Native American rituals and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

### 2:00 pm **Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center**

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Learn about flash floods and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

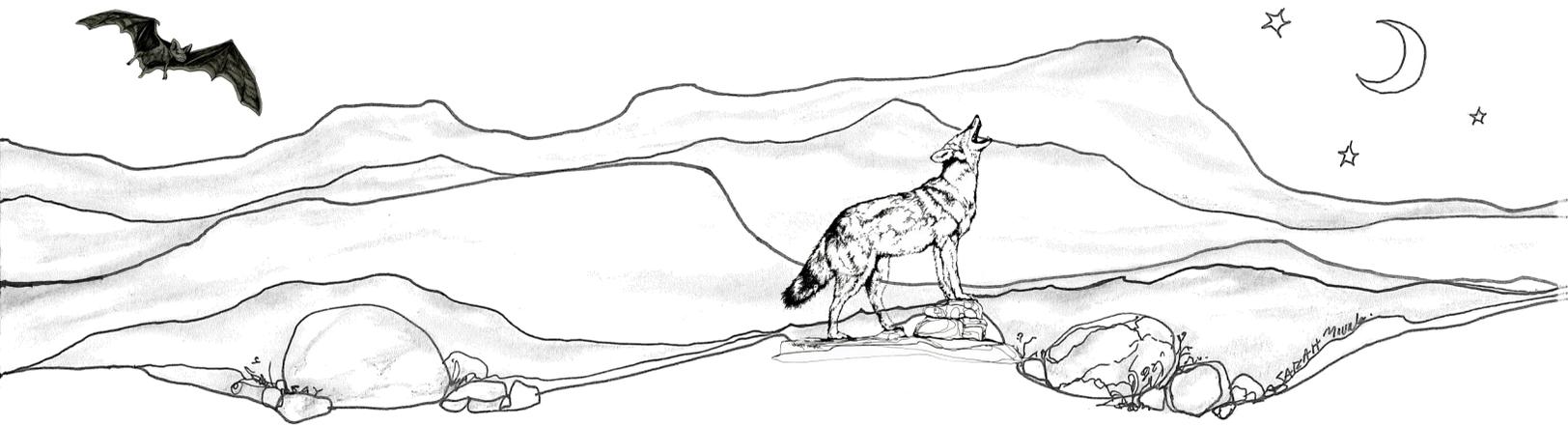
### 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm **Stargazing at the Amphitheatre**

Join us at the amphitheatre, located near the Ranger Station, for an incredible look at our night sky. Our park interpreters will amaze you with views of the moon, stars and planets. Bring a light jacket and be prepared to drink hot chocolate at this family event.



**The flat-tailed horned lizard captures prey with their sticky tongues rather than grabbing them with their jaws, and has been known to eat up to 200 ants in a day!**





## Saturday, November 26th, 2011

### 8:00 am to 10:00 am Coffee with a Naturalist

Thirsty for some information? Stop by the shower house off of Ranger Station Road for a delicious cup of coffee or hot chocolate. Grab a map and get the latest and greatest information about the programs Ocotillo Wells has to offer!

### 10:00 am Junior Ranger Program at Discovery Center

Become a Junior Ranger this weekend! Learn about turkey vultures and you may even get the opportunity to sport a shiny new Junior Ranger Badge! This program is for kids ages 7-12. Activities take approximately 45 minutes.

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Gnarly Beasts of the Past at Shell Reef

Join us to discover the mega-critters of the past and why they're so gnarly! Picture a shark the size of a bus chasing walrus through the sea above Shell Reef. Check out the skull of the biggest bear that ever walked North America!

### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Talking "Pumpkins" with the Geologist

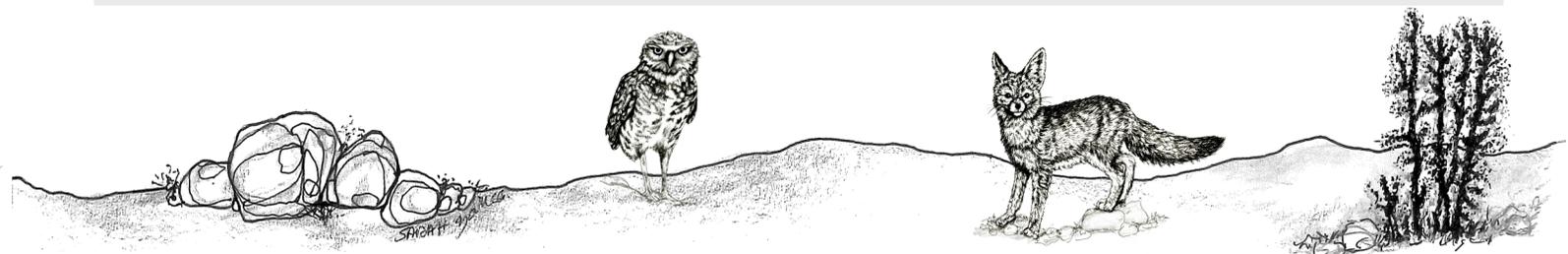
Join our Park Interpreters for a great time learning about our geologic past. Located at the Pumpkin Patch you will find us set up to tell you how the "pumpkins" were formed. Polish your rock identification skills with "*Rock-otillo*" and win an excellent prize.

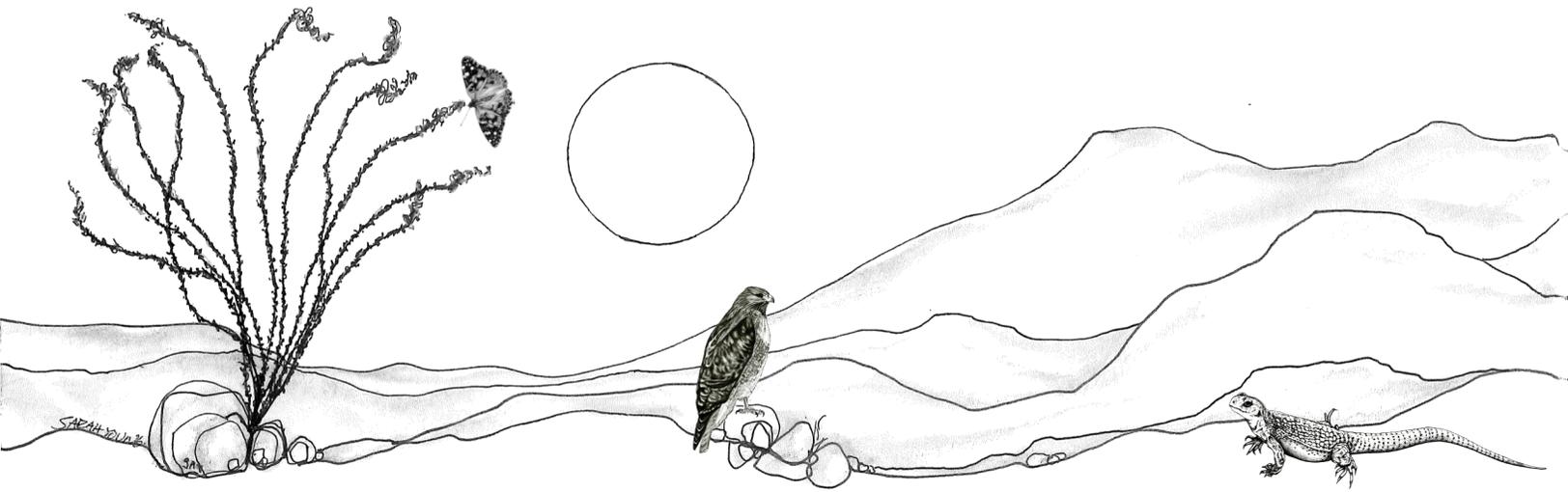
### 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Desert Animal Extravaganza at Truckhaven 4x4 Area

Did you know there are badgers at OW? Join us for an intimate look into the lives of these determined diggers and other fascinating desert dwellers.

### 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm Junior Ranger Explorer Zone at the Discovery Center

Visit the Discovery Center anytime between 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm for an action-packed afternoon of games, crafts and fun facts about your favorite state park!





## Saturday, November 26th, 2011

### 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm **Stargazing at the Amphitheatre**

Join us at the amphitheatre, located near the Ranger Station, for an incredible look at our night sky. Our park interpreters will amaze you with views of the moon, stars and planets. Bring a light jacket and be prepared to drink hot chocolate at this family event.

## Sunday, November 27th, 2011

### 9:00 am to 3:00 pm **Talking Bubbles at Gas Domes**

Come learn about what makes the Gas Domes bubble! Join our park interpreters to talk about the amazing forces going on right beneath our feet!

### 9:00 am to 3:00 pm **Desert Animal Extravaganza at Truckhaven 4x4 Area**

Did you know there are badgers at OW? Join us for an intimate look into the lives of these determined diggers and other fascinating desert dwellers.

### 9:00 am to 3:00 pm **Talking "Pumpkins" with the Geologist**

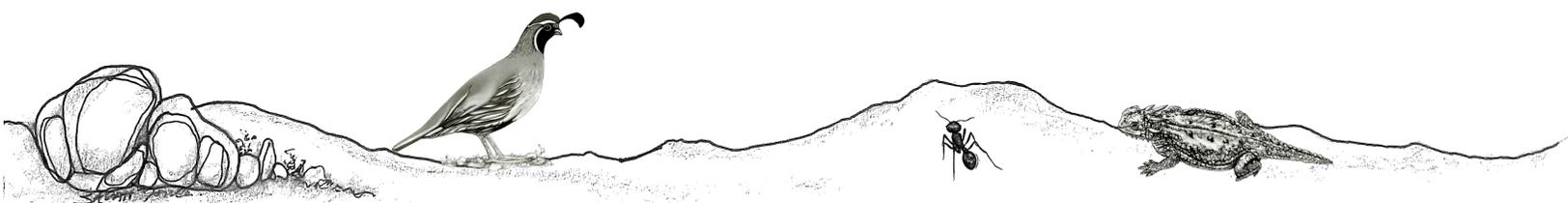
Join our Park Interpreters for a great time learning about our geologic past. Located at the Pumpkin Patch you will find us set up to tell you how the "pumpkins" were formed. Polish your rock identification skills with "*Rock-otillo*" and win an excellent prize.

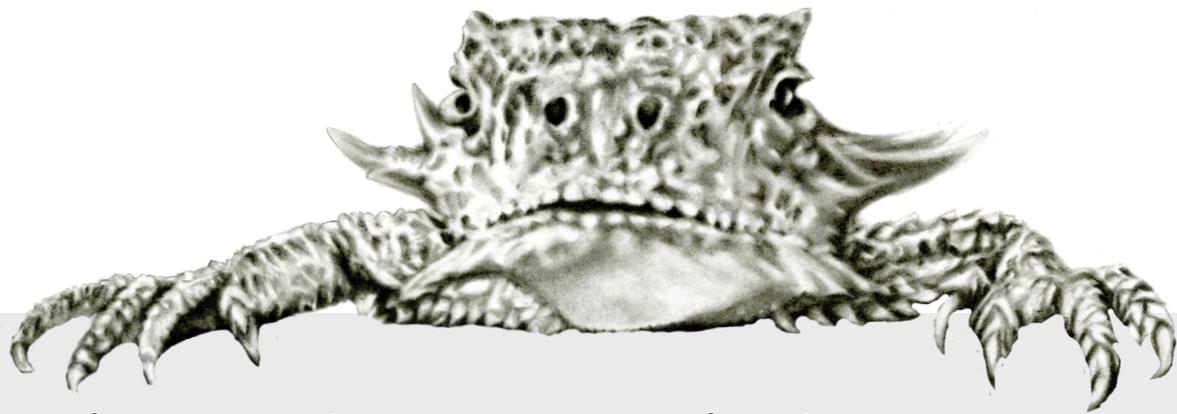
### 9:00 am to 11:00 am **ATV Geology Tour**

Join our Park Naturalist for an exhilarating tour through the park's geologic past. From Blowsand Hill through Devil's Slide and beyond, you will experience how geology has affected our past, present, and will eventually affect our future. This tour is designed for ATV's, Rhinos, and Jeeps. *Meet at the fenced-in area of Shell Reef by the panels.*



**Although they spend most of their time on the ground, round-tailed ground squirrels are good climbers, and can be seen foraging for food in mesquite trees.**





*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 our Off-Highway Adventure Tour Series:**

### **Rock-otillo! The Geology of Ocotillo Wells**

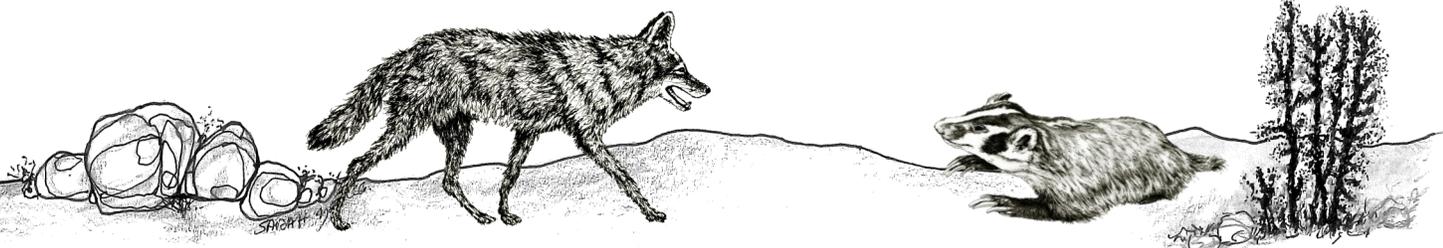
December 2nd, 2011 9:00 to 1:00 pm

Whoever said that time travel isn't possible never took a look at a rock! Take a trip back in time with one of our staff geologists, and look at the past through the rocks beneath your feet. Ocotillo Wells has some spectacular geological formations and they tell the story of our past, present and sometimes our future. Be prepared to "rock out" at Ocotillo Wells!

This tour meets at the Discovery Center at 9:00 am and last until approximately 1:00 pm. Please be willing to carpool. 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.

**Can't make this one? Check out the other exciting tours on the next page!**

**What's up at OW? Tune into AM 1620 Radio Rock-otillo!**





*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-Highway Adventure Tour Series:**

<b>2-Dec</b>	<b>Rock-otillo! The Geology of Ocotillo Wells</b>
<b>9-Dec</b>	<b>Exploring Truckhaven's Coral Wash</b>
<b>16-Dec</b>	<b>Geocaching 101, A Treasure Hunt</b>
<b>6-Jan</b>	<b>Colorful Desert Characters</b>
<b>13-Jan</b>	<b>Desert Habitats</b>
<b>20-Jan</b>	<b>Oil Exploration History</b>

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)

Sign up for our weekly emails to receive upcoming events and programs at: [OWInterpretion@parks.ca.gov](mailto:OWInterpretion@parks.ca.gov)

